New Haven Oct. 29th 1837

My dear Brother,

Elizabeth has loaned me a portion of her sheet, to ~~assu~~ assure you of our affectionate remembrance of you and your family; we think & speak often of you, & have been happy to hear of your steady & safe passage, & of your movements since your arrival in England.

There are so many places & objects of interest in that country, that the time you passed there must have been pleasantly spent, & I should think it would be a matter of regret to you that you could not have had ~~a greater~~ more time to devote to the examination of them.

Harriets health is improving very gradually & she is now better than she has been at any time since the spring after our marriage, Master John, is growing finely & is a very good child, He is five months old to day. The other children are all very well and attend school as when you was here. Our commercial difficulties still continue, though somewhat alleviated, or rather, our business men have become accustomed to the state of things which exists, & think less of it than at first, there seems to be little to hope for, for the better, until our foreign debt is liquidated, & there can be no general resumption of specie payments by the banks, until this is effected. The crops of the country are exceedingly good this year, & the avails of these will go far towards the payment of our debts, & it seems to have been the policy of our merchants, as well as every body else this year, to enter into no new liabilities, but to endeavor to collect & pay debts as far as possible. Congress has met & adjourned and has done very little for the relief or benefit of the country. The object of Mr. Van Buren ~~seems~~ in calling a meeting of Congress seems to have been, to obtain relief for the government, which is acknowledged by all to be bankrupt, & a law was passed authorizing the issue by Government of ten millions dolls. in ~~of~~ treasury notes, to meet their wants & expenses, & also postponing the payment of the third instalment of the surplus revenue which was to have been distributed to the states. A law authorizing a suspension of the payment of merchants bonds for duties was also passed which has afforded some relief to them. The boasted experiment of Genl. Jackson has brought a general ruin throughout the whole country & we cannot expect relief until there is a change in the policy & men by which our government is administered. A change in public opinion has taken place during the last year & it *may* operate upon congress during its next session so far as to induce the adoption of measures for the relief of the of the country, but the Administration have still a majority in both houses, so that it is somewhat doubtful. I have no doubt but that our state has a very considerable whig majority at this time & that our spring election will result in a triumph of *whiggery*. &

Write me when you can; Harriet & the children send love to all; I am dear brother, yours affectionately, Geo Robinson

Monday morning Oct. 30. — My dear Brother — Your letter from Brussels of Sept 18th was received on the 27th inst — & I would again thank you for your oft repeated remembrance of us When asked if I have heard from my brother — I am *proud* to answer yes, we hear *every* week — & have already received *six* letters — But this is too good to last — & I am fearing that the time *will* come when we may wait week after week without receiving any communications from you — But of *this* I am sure — that you will write us whenever you can — & with this assurance *I will* endeavour to rest content — One sentence in your letter made me quite unhappy — & that was when you expressed the *hope* that you should find at Cologne, a letter from home — I knew you would not & was very sorry that you should be disappointed — but the simple reason was that I supposed you would not expect letters oftener than once a month — — — Brother C— wrote you by the last packet i.e. of the 24th — but in consequence of a northeaster all the packets of that date were detained until the 27th — His letter will not therefore have been received many days before this — There is nothing new among us — Nancy's health is not materially improved by her journey — but Cornelia has apparently ly benefitted much by it — Since her recovery from an ill turn in N. York she has been very well indeed & full of life & spirits — she will soon commence school — We hear from Detroit that they are getting on very well — Helen writes me that her husband is so occupied at present by his Bank that he can only spend the Sabbaths with her & this she does not find very agreeable — If her husband could be with her she would be pleasantly situated — though she is not satisfied to be so far separated from her Parents — — Charles had a woful letter from Mr Woodruff last evening — in which he speaks of great pecuniary embarrassments & of his hopelessness of any thing brighter in future — He says that he has recently met with great losses — something over $6000 — but as he always exaggerates — I have some doubts about the amount — He however seems to be very unhappy himself & undoubtedly makes his wife equally so for he is not one to keep his misfortunes to himself

The sympathy of the public has been very much excited by the loss of a Charleston Steam packet, off the island of Ocracock on the 9th inst — About 90 persons perished — & among the number were the Rev George Cowles & lady, of Danvers Mass — This melancholy event was occasioned by the vessel springing a leak during a heavy gale — by which the fires were extinguished — & the vessel was consequently driven on shore — Of 26 females but two escaped & one of them was over 70 years of age — We hear much of the barbarous treatment the sufferers have experienced from the natives — though some honorable exceptions of kindness & hospitality are mentioned — — There are many rumours afloat respecting the unseaworthiness of the vessel & the incapacity at the time of the Captain — but we know nothing certain — The Boat was new — this being only her third trip — she was called the 'Home' & was commanded by an experienced Captain — of excellent character — but whom rumour says, was at the fatal time, intoxicated — However the public are requested by many voices to suspend their judgement respecting this charge — until the accused is able to speak for himself — He is still at the scene of disaster — From whatever cause, it was a most heartrending event — many estimable persons, there met a sudden & unexpected fate — — — — The papers for the last week have been filled with rumours respecting a reported piracy — said to have occurred off the mouth of the Delaware on the 21st — The vessel for the fate of which very much interest is

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felt – is the packet ship Susquehannah from Philadelphia to Liverpool – The report of her capture comes from some pilots – who were off some hours after she sailed – – They report a strange vessel bearing up for her – & afterwards both, changing their course to the south – Government vessels are ordered out in pursuit – & it is hoped that suspense will soon be dissipated – There were quite a number of passengers on board both male & female – but only $12,000 in specie – – The last accounts are more favorable & many persons doubt the correctness of the story altogether –

Geo. & Eliz. Robinson
Oct. 30. 1837
Recd at Syra
Dec. 26.

PAID

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Rev. Edward Robinson D.D.
aux soins de
M.M. Delaunay. Burgy. et. comp.
au Havre
(en France)

NEW-HAVEN OCT 30 Ct.

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I have seen in the public prints a notice of the death of Samuel M. Hopkins Esq of Geneva – I mention it because I remember you were pleased with the society in G – of which he was a member – & because he is said to have been an eminent man – New Haven now looks exceedingly desolate – the trees are mostly stripped of their leaves & their naked branches impart a more cheerless aspect to the place than other cities wear – The autumn has been fine: with the exception of a few days the first of the month & also just at this time – It is now cold & anthracite well heated is very grateful – Give my best love to sister Theresa – Mimi & Eddy – Your affectionate sister

Charles & Nancy send love to all – & Cornelia also –

Elisabeth